

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the February 25, 2020 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Morin the meeting of February 25, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Debra Putnam, Chairman of the Sustainability Committee

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Morin read a statement and held a moment of silence honoring Hudson Retired Hudson firefighter,

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: David Morin, Marilyn McGrath, Kara Roy, Roger Coutu, Normand Martin

Staff/Others: Diana Lamothe, School Board Member; Terri Wolf, SAU Marketing Coordinator; Paul Inderbitzen, Town Moderator; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Jess Forrence, DPW Director; Police Chief Bill Avery; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Morin asked does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time. Seeing none.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Zoning Board of Appeals - (5 alternate terms 4 of which expire 12/31/21, 1 of which expires 12/31/25,)

Svetlana Paliy was present. Chairman Morin asked Ms. Paliy to tell us a little about herself and why she is interested in serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Ms. Paliy explained that she recently relocated to Hudson. She has a background in finance and served for almost 17 years on the Zoning Board in Pelham.

Selectman McGrath asked Ms. Paliy if she has attended or watched any of the Hudson ZBA meetings to which Ms. Paliy answered she has not.

*Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Svetlana Paliy as an alternate member to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term to expire 12/31/21. Carried 5-0.*

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Morin asked does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration.

*Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Martin, to approve consent items A, B, C, D, E and F as noted or appropriate, carried 5-0.*

A. Assessing Items

1) All Veterans Tax Credits: map 183, lot 053 - 5 Marshall St.; map 184, lot 027, sub 003 - 13 Cobblestone Dr.

2) Veterans Tax Credits: map 147, lot 004 - 214 Webster St.; map 131, lot 027 - 1 Springwood Circle; map 242, lot 060 - 8 Gowing Rd.

3) Solar Exemption: map 131, lot 027 - 1 Springwood Cir.

4) Elderly Exemption: map 179, lot 015, sub 002 - 134B Kimball Hill Rd.

5) Elderly Exemption Denial: map 147, lot 022, sub 039 - 11 Berkeley Dr.

B. Water/Sewer Items - None at this time

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Outdoor Gathering Permit & Raffle Permit - British Cars of New Hampshire
- 2) Raffle Permit - Hudson Fish and Game Club, Inc.
- 3) Tag Day Sales - American Legion Post 247
- 4) Tag Day Sales - Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains
- 5) Tag Day Sales - Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains
- 6) Tag Day Sales - Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains

D. Donations - None

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the February 4, 2020 Meeting
- 2) Minutes of the February 8, 2020 Deliberative Session

F. Calendar

2/26 7:00 Planning Board- Buxton Meeting Room

2/27 7:00 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton Meeting Room

3/3 7:00 Board of Selectmen - Workshop - BOS Meeting Room

3/4 7:00 Budget Committee - CANCELLED

3/5 6:30 Recreation Committee - BOS Meeting Room

3/9 7:00 Cable Utility Committee - HCTV

3/9 7:00 Conservation Commission - Buxton Meeting Room

3/9 7:00 Board of Selectmen (note this meeting is on Monday as Tuesday,  
3/10 is Town Voting Day)

3/10 7:00am - 8:00pm - Voting Day - Hudson Community Center

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on February 4, 2020

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to promote Master Patrol Officer Derek Lloyd to the position of Sergeant at \$35.53 per hour according to

the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract (Step 5). This elevation in rank would be effective on Sunday, March 15, 2020. Carried 4-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to promote Master Patrol Officer Michael Corey to the position of Sergeant at \$35.53 per hour according to the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract (Step 5). This elevation in rank would be effective on Sunday, March 15, 2020. Carried 4-0.

Selectman Martin made a motion to adjourn at 8:23p.m., seconded by Selectman McGrath. Carried 4-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Town and School Sample Ballots

Chairman Morin recognized Theresa Wolf, Community Engagement Officer for the Hudson School District. Ms. Wolf thanked the Chairman for having her here to talk about the printing of sample ballots. She proceeded to say, I'm here to talk about a town-wide mailer for sample ballots that would include both the Town and the School District. So, as you know in the past, ballots were inserted in the HLN and went to every household in Hudson. We paid for that. The Town paid for it and the School District paid for it. There was a fee for copying and then the Town paid a fee to insert it. And then the School District also paid for it. So, that was information that I hadn't fully been aware of as we were going through this process. So we were under the impression that the Town did not want to do a mailer the last few weeks. I think partly was the cost that was associated with it, postage and the just cumbersome process of bundling and permitting and sending it out. So when we approached the School Board last week about just doing a mailer just for us, the School Board said they didn't want to do a mailer without the Town. They just didn't feel like that was good optics. And so, we went back to the drawing board. I re-bid the mailer with all of the ballots. There was definitely some concern because you have a pretty long warrant article this year. Where we have six items, there are 28. So I did rebid it and we were pleasantly surprised by the results. It wasn't as scary as we thought it would be. So, I got a new quote with the ballots. Diving the printing cost proportionately, so you have three sheets of paper, we have one, and then diving the postage in half, we would actually spend less money than we did last year inserting it into the HLN for each group. So, with that, I have samples for you with numbers. I just didn't want to give them to you right away because I know when you hand out paper everybody starts to read and doesn't necessarily hear everything.

So, the costs that are down at the bottom. As you can see the total cost is at the bottom half of the page of the proposed. Up above is mostly history. The proposed cost divided for the School District would be around \$1700 for the Town would be around \$2300 total. And that includes the printing, the postage and the preparation for getting it to the post office. So the post office has a relatively new program you might be familiar with you had to permit before and you had to divide things up. They have something called Every Day Mailing. And I think it's to encourage entities to use the mailing system more. And also, the printer does this as a service so they would just bundle it up and send it out. They also said when I talked to them earlier, try not to think of it in a way of individual mail pieces but as routes. So they're just having the drivers kind of be carriers and distribute each route. So that pretty much covers the cost. There are two variables. Right now I'm estimating 10,600 would be sent out. It could be a little bit less. I think that includes the post office boxes and I didn't know if people would want to mail to post offices boxes or not. Not sure how that works here. And it could vary a little bit either up or down I'm estimating by \$100 either way, it could go down if we do print less or it could go up if we might need to print a little more. But I don't see it going higher than that. And with that I'm happy to answer any questions.

Chairman Morin recognized Selectman Coutu. Selectman Coutu said first of all I want to express, I'm sure on behalf of the Board, our sincere appreciation for you doing this work for us. There was a

concern in the community and there exists a concern in the community as to whether or not sample ballots would be available and we sought alternative measures of getting them, like dropping them off at convenience stores and things of that nature. I'm very much impressed with the design of the ballot it's easy to read, the print is small, but these ballots are available online and when I went to print them the printed, the paper was too small. I forgot to print it to fit and when you print it to fit this is what I got, the same thing. In any event, considering what we paid in the past to have the insert, even if there's a fluctuation of \$100 one way or another, we're still going to end up on the saving end, so I again thank you for the work that you did, and I personally, Mr. Chairman, wholeheartedly endorse getting the ballots out to every single home. I think we can find the \$2,372.28 give or take a hundred dollars.

Chairman Morin replied, I actually looked into it already and we have that in the account that we used last year for the newspaper. Any other questions? Chairman recognized Selectman McGrath who said, questions for Jill (Laffin), did you check the number of households? Ms. Laffin replied, we have 10,686 residential addresses in Town and that includes post office boxes as well. To which Ms. McGrath replied, so that's just a little more than what they've got calculated. Ms. Laffin asked Ms. Wolf, what is the turnaround time for the project? Ms. Wolf replied the estimate would be to drop it in the mail on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, I think if it dropped on Thursday that would be okay. So if this gets approve, I'm emailing it at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow morning. They're kind of cued up. I know that everybody is concerned that people aren't going to receive this information. So, they're cued up, they've been extremely cooperative through multiple versions of estimates so I think they're going to be ready to go. So then a proof would come back to me, I'm hoping Friday or Monday and then it would go out.

Selectman McGrath asked, is this going to be the fold? To which Ms. Wolf replied, nope, it's going to be exactly as it is. Exactly as you have it. It will come in the mail just like this. Which I was hoping. I think the ballot side, a ballot is very distinguished. People who vote will see it. And then we had this extra blank page, so that's when I put the note in here. So it will come exactly like this with maybe very slight modifications on the layout. Selectman McGrath asked, so all of the work will be done by whoever is printing and then it's just a matter of delivering them to the post office? Ms. Wolf replied yes. She went on to say, I did bring that quote if you're interested. But it also includes they have to print out slips and divide it up, and that's included in all of this.

Selectman Coutu made a motion to approve sending the ballots via mail to all of the legal residential addresses in the Town of Hudson in an amount not to exceed \$2,500. Selectman Roy seconded this motion. Carried 5-0.

When asked if there was any further discussion. Selectman Martin replied I just want to say, I'll echo Selectman Coutu's comments that this is a project that usually takes a little time. You've pulled it off. Thank you to the School Board for considering the Town. It's an important thing for all of our citizen's to be informed and I wholeheartedly support this project.

Selectman McGrath was recognized by the Chairman and said just to point out that when the people open up this ballot the first one they're going to see is the School Board. School Ballot and the next is the Town. So, just wanted to point that out.

Ms. Wolf asked, may I ask a clarifying questions? When you said all the legal addresses did you mean that to include the post office boxes? Selectman Coutu said, that includes the post office boxes because a lot of residents do use them.

Ms. Wolf stated that I just want to share one thing with you. We've heard a lot at the SAU about this School Board wanting to be cooperative with the Town and so if you go to our website the very first thing, even on your mobile device you will see a button that says March Election. And click on that and at the very top of that I have the School District ballot and the Town ballots right there. And you'll notice the website addresses were on this mailer and we're going to try to keep doing that stuff. So I just wanted to share that so that you can direct people with one stop shopping.

Selectman Coutu said, for the record Mr. Chairman if I might, we also have it on our Town page.

B. Matthew Izzo - Eagle Scout Project

Chairman Morin recognized Matthew Izzo, Eagle Scout candidate from Troop 610. Matthew handed out copies of the PowerPoint presentation that he had presented to the Conservation Commission. These were the same slides in the Board meeting packet. Mr. Izzo thanked the Board for the time to present his idea tonight and said, my name is Matthew Izzo and I'm proposing an idea for my Eagle Project which would be to put six signs with maps on them in the Musquatch Trails to help guide the residents who are going on the trails so they don't get lost. While pointing to the photos he handed out Mr. Izzo stated as you can see that the six spots are marked on the map on the first page and there are corresponding pictures in sequence. My plan is to make a plaque about the size of a piece of paper 8x11 and put the map almost exactly what's on the first page on it with the locations of the other maps where they are on the trails and the trail names. Just so people can see where they are and see where other places were.

Chairman Morin asked if there were any questions. Selectman Coutu asked. Matt, in researching this project, and talking to the members of the Conservation Commission, did they allude to anything about their presently being some signs there and the conditions of those signs? Mr. Izzo replied, I don't believe they did. I believe there are some posts with an arrow and the trail name but this would be with a map in the six locations. Selectman Coutu said, as I understand it, John Collins is working with you from the Conservation Commission to assist you with the project. Selectman Coutu was corrected, that it is Bill Collins from the Conservation Commission. Selectman Coutu went on to say, Matt, I'm very proud of you. I've known you since, I wasn't there when you were born, but I've known you since then. You were a handful in church. I applaud you for wanting to do this, it's going to be beneficial to the Town and to the people who use the Musquatch Trails. There are quite a few. They are pretty sporadic but there are a lot of people who enjoy walking through the trails a lot of bird watchers who go out there and I think that would be a tremendous benefit to the Town of Hudson. Matt, I'm proud of you bud, as always.

Upon no further questions from the Board Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to approve the project presented by Matthew Izzo from Troop 610 to place signage at Musquatch Trails. Carried 5-0.

C. Zach's Field Update

Chairman Morin recognized Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer. Mr. Dhima stated, most of you already know, this project started somewhere in 2012-13 the intent was to remove a significant amount of asbestos from one place to another. Unfortunately it ended up being way more than they thought, the people involved at the time. So while the site is sealed now and everything by the State has been approved, the site is sealed and was done in accordance with the plans so it was a significant amount of boulders during the excavation process. At the time of my arrival these boulders were at the site and it was unclear if that was a responsibility of the foundation or the responsibility of the Town and it's been an ongoing issue ever since. A local contractor at this time is in need of a site to crush some additional rocks and he's looking to utilize this site and in return he would basically crush the boulders at the site and remove them at no cost to the Town or the foundation. And with that said there's a contract in front of you tonight to basically trade services for the site to be used for six months. I'm here to ask if you're willing to entertain that or not and what your wish is. I'll take any questions you might have.

Chairman Morin asked if there were any questions. Selectman Coutu asked, Mr. Dhima, initially when we were in the process of excavating the property after we did the capping and the parking lot was put into place, I believe you looked into the project of having to crush this stone because obviously for us to be able to do anything constructive with the property with its original intent to be Zach's Stadium, this whole area here with all of the rocks and stones and we're talking some stones

of considerable size, they're boulders, bigger than this table in some instances. Was going to be quite an expensive project. I believe you went out and got a quote. What was the approximate amount of money that they wanted to do what this gentleman is offering to do for nothing? To which Mr. Dhima replied, two years ago an unofficial quote was \$75,000. Selectman Coutu said, just to crush that stone. Here we have a company that's willing to come in and do it and remove it and then all we have to do after that is grade it, seed it and decide whether we want to have a passive recreation area or go to the football club, the Hudson Bears and see if they're going to build a stadium and if not then we'd ask them to release the lease back to us so we could do something with the land. Thank you Mr. Dhima. That's a good stroke of luck for us on this one.

Selectman McGrath was recognized by the Chairman. Selectman McGrath asked are they willing to sign some sort of an agreement that they'll leave the space as they found it with the acceptance of understanding that they'll be crushing these boulders. Mr. Dhima replied part of the contract in front of you tonight specific work is basically removal of all the boulders identified by Engineering and Department of Public Works, removal from the site of all access material from the crushing operation. Operation will be from Monday through Friday 8:00a.m. - 4:30 p.m. transportation operation will be allowed from Monday through Saturday but there will not be any crushing Saturday. Contractor shall be using the site from March 1-30<sup>th</sup>. Contractor shall leave the site satisfactory of the Engineering and Public Works Departments. So Public Works and Engineering will be involved in this project and will be keeping an eye on it. But we will make sure to keep it to our satisfaction. There's also liquidated damages in there as well, if they don't get out of there on time, if it's not to our satisfaction, there is an umbrella insurance for one million dollars that will be part of that as well. Also the contractor has a drain layers license with a \$10,000 bond in place with the Town of Hudson. So we have all this in place as well to protect Town interests.

Selectman McGrath said, just a comment, I think that you deserve an awful lot of credit and thanks for identifying this contractor and working through it to get this field back to where it should be. You've taken a lot of grief about this particular project, undeservedly so. The Town owes you its gratitude. Mr. Dhima said, we've been trying to take care of this for a long time, there's been a lot of discussion behind doors, even though publicly we haven't been able to do anything. I hope when it's done it will be a clean slate at least to figure out of if it's going to be the foundation or the Town that does something with this. The site is sealed, it's clean, and hopefully we can move forward. But I think it's a great opportunity and it will be no cost to the Town or the foundation.

Seeing no further comments *Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve the agreement between TTD Earth Tech Inc. and the Town of Hudson to remove the excess material at 9 Industrial Drive as per the memo presented to us by Elvis Dhima our Town Engineer on February 19, 2020. Carried 5-0.*

D. Sustainability Committee Roadside Cleanup

Chairman Morin recognized Deb Putnam, Chairman of the Sustainability Committee. Ms. Putnam said, good evening Board. The Sustainability Committee is pivotal in this proposed project, in working with Jess Forrence and then Jess working with Chief of Police, Bill Avery, to find a path to finally do a road that is a disgrace to the community. Wason Road has sections that seem to be places where drivers seem to throw anything and everything out of their windows. It's been a road that the Sustainability Committee has been wanting to do for a long time but we definitely recognize the very serious safety concerns. So when Jess Forrence came up with the idea, let's work with the Police Department, the DPW, and with the Sustainability Committee. We came together with a proposal that we feel will be safe in that a DPW truck with personnel will be escorting the volunteers. We will be staying together with at least one cruiser and potentially a second cruiser, should it be necessary, to assure safety. We will work only one side, the worst side, of Wason Road. The Sustainability Committee purchased, working through the Town Administrator, safety vests last fall. A quantity of I believe, 50. We are also voted last evening to have new, what people usually call lawn signs, but we call them our roadside signs, and in a sufficient quantity, that I was sort of thinking perhaps the DPW earlier that Saturday morning, could identify this section has to be done and put one of our lawn signs at the beginning of that section and at the end of that section. So that when we

get started that morning we know exactly which sections we're going. So the police officers know this is our stop point. We're going from here to 30 feet down the road. Then we're going on to the next point. The Police Chief, earlier this evening before this meeting started, suggested something that the Sustainability Committee did do once before and that was, when we publicize the roadside cleanup, which we'd like to do starting the March 10<sup>th</sup> voting day in the Community Center, and I had communicated with Mr. Inderbitzen about having a display table there. Is to have residents email [HudsonSustainabilityCommittee@gmail.com](mailto:HudsonSustainabilityCommittee@gmail.com) and indicate their interest in participating so we know ahead of time how many people will be involved potentially but also so that we can manage that group of individuals and so we can inform them appropriately again with a proposed meeting point open parking lot of the Burns Hill Fire Station. As that has been decommissioned and that lot is available for parking. But obviously how we actually go about it will be up to Jess Forrence and the Police Chief.

Selectman Coutu asked what is the proposed date of the cleanup? To which Ms. Putnam replied, April 18<sup>th</sup>. The meeting time would be about 9:30 a.m. at the Burns Hill Fire Station. The time slot for the cleanup would be only two hours, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon.

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to approve the roadside cleanup on Wason Road as proposed by the Sustainability Committee Chairperson. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Coutu stated, I just want to express our sincere appreciation for working out the logistics with the Police Department and I want to thank both our Police Chief and our Public Works Director, Jess Forrence for assisting you and continuing to assist you during this project. Being a frequent user of Wason Road, it's a mess, I can't wait to see it cleaned up.

#### E. Town Moderator Update

Chairman Morin recognized Town Moderator, Paul Inderbitzen and Police Chief Bill Avery. Mr. Inderbitzen started off by Thanking the Board. He went on to say, I sent out some of the statistics for the day. We had less than a turnout than a lot of us thought we would. 40% although, if you go back two Primaries, we were at 35% back in 2012. Could be a seasonal thing where you don't have two parties with candidates since there was an incumbent. So that maybe we what. So 40%. It was a busy day but it wasn't a terrible day inside. Now, hopefully the Police Chief and Public Works Director can tell us a little bit more of the outside after we're done here. If you look at the statistics, we handled about 545 voters per hour through the checklist which is pretty good. We've done higher when we have a Presidential. We had that initial rush of 615 which we really did within an hour pretty good. I thought that the workers did a good job. If you look down at the four to five and five to six, those numbers went up. It wasn't really a big rush that was when the time we were putting through 300 absentee ballots into the machines. So it looks like there's a lot there but it really isn't that much. Everybody did well. We had just a few glitches. We never had a problem with the machines. Never had a jam. I like the longer ballots because I think they fall better inside. So the Town election will be a little bit more because they're three pages of Town ballots so that's a lot. It will take us a little while there. If anyone has any questions about the statistics and what we did for the Primary, that would be the time to check that now.

Selectman Martin asked, did you have any kind of idea what the cost was for overtime? Mr. Inderbitzen replied, the Chairman asked me on Friday if I could have some costs. So I emailed the Finance Director and she did give us some of the work. Actually she's got a lot of numbers already so, it looks like the total cost of the Primary is like \$12,700, which is a lot considering all the people involved. But for the Public Works overtime, now that's only overtime, we did not, I put in my budget for overtime, not their regular hours, with \$737 and the Police overtime was over \$5,700. They did a remarkable job. I think. I did not get out there too much but from what I heard things moved pretty smoothly. I'll ask the Chief to at least comment on that when we're done here as to what because I have a question for the March election as well on that. So we did pretty well. We had 464 new registrants and almost 300 absentee ballots. So 7,239, I expected at least 50% we didn't get it. So what can you do? I didn't hear of anyone deciding not to vote because they could not get in. I don't know how far the backup was on Adelaide Street, Chief, was there a long backup at any point in the

day? Chief Avery replied, yes, at one point, we did have a backup on Adelaide down to Central Street and we diverted the traffic to Vinton Street. So we did have it once. I don't recall what time. Mr. Inderbitzen said there was a big rush around ten o'clock. We got busy all of a sudden and then it dropped off. From the check-in. around 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. there 686 per hour so that was like 1200 people in those two hours. That might have been where we have a little bit of a backup. But other than that did you have any bad? It was not a nice day for them. It was supposed to be a sunny day and it was not. Chief Avery said, it's a long day for my staff. I know a lot of you in the public made comments about how well the officers were treating people even though the conditions were terrible. They had smiles on their face the whole day and they did an incredible job. Some people commented that I was out there. Well, if my staff is going to be out there then I'm going to be out there. It was a long day for everybody. But, overall, I think it went smooth. We could have made some changes to make it better. We can always improve of what we do. I'm not so sure the Presidential election is going to go nearly as smoothly as this did if it were to remain at the Community Center. I do fear that. I had the pleasure of working that in 2016 as a Captain and did an after action report so we prepared for this primary exactly like we were preparing for the Presidential. So we were prepared. Did it cost some money? It did. I understand that. But everybody that we had there, worked. And we had extra bodies to relieve individuals to get out of the cold for a little bit.

Chairman Morin said, I know several of us received comments that it went very well and it was probably one of the better days for voting that took place to get through and get in and out of there. Selectman Martin asked if there was a plan for a meeting to discuss the change for venue? Mr. Inderbitzen said, after we get through the Town elections, let's sit down later in March and we'll set up a time. We did a walkthrough, some of us were there, and I think we should make a decision and at least look at the pluses and the minuses in terms of inside. But I think it's a possibility, maybe a requirement because of the fact that the Community Center cannot handle that amount of people. Chief Avery said, my interaction with the Attorney General's office on that day. There was a point I believe the Chairman was with me, was not pleased with the way the traffic was backed up and voiced several concerns to me at the scene that traffic should not be backing up because it could prevent people from making it to the polls to cast their vote. I assured him we were doing the best we can. He watched our operation and he was pleased with what we were doing. It's just a matter of getting cars into that parking lot and then getting those cars out of there. It's not an easy task. Mr. Inderbitzen said, we'll wait and see whether or not he gives us a negative report. He also had a couple about a couple signs out front where the campaigners were, not being manned. I'm saying you've got a sign there and you've got three people around with little signs but because nobody has their hand on it doesn't mean that it's not a manned sign. I think there was some interpretation of the law in that. We never had a backup inside, that was really easy. The hardest part, I knew, was going to be outside. Because of people getting in and out. Turnover was pretty good.

Selectman McGrath stated, I never received any complaints. And I was there all day. I don't recall ever hearing anybody complain. Now the last Presidential election there were plenty of complaints. People were dissatisfied at not having multiple polling places, traffic and those types of things. I didn't get any complaints this time and I thought that all of the staff that worked out there, the police and Public Works they worked in miserable conditions. And they must have been freezing cold because I was cold and I was inside the building. The door kept opening up and letting the cold air in and these people stood outside all day and I think they did a remarkable job. Chief Avery agreed saying, that's a great point mentioning Public Works. I know the Public Works Director is behind me right now, the gentlemen that he had out there, they worked hand in hand with our officers and did the set up beforehand. They really busted their tails to make this a successful operation. So Jess, thank you buddy.

Mr. Inderbitzen said Police and Public Works were outstanding in what they did for a very difficult day. It's unfortunate that it had to be not a nice day out. Selectman McGrath stated and people that might tend to criticize ought to think about themselves and whether or not they'd stand out there all day in those conditions. Mr. Inderbitzen went on to say, I did not budget this much for the Police and Public Works overtime. I'll be a little over budget for those figures. It looks like even in the new budget basically we used kind of the hours that we used back in the Presidential but that was four years ago. So I may be a little over budget in that too. Depending on moving it and what we have to

do. I didn't plan on that so this was a little higher than what I had budgeted for. But I think we can manage.

Mr. Inderbitzen also said, the other thing I was going to ask with the Police and Public Works Department here is that last March we had a snowstorm. It was pretty bad. But we had a 4,500 voter turnout. If you think of we had 7239 this time and we're going to go down to maybe 4500, do we need to have some sort of controlling the circulation within the parking lot, because remember there's four pages for people to vote on, they'll be in the booths a lot longer. Which means they'll be out of their cars a lot longer. I did not usually plan for a Town Meeting, but should we possibly have, not the same set up, but at least have some idea that if we do get some backups that someone is there to take care of it? Or maybe have some direction in the parking lot by a couple people to direct cars around? Should we have the one way circulation? I don't know if we need to do that for the Town election having it one way, the way we did it. Chief Avery responded by saying, it's tough to say and the weather is unknown at this point. I know if it snows Public Works will be out there. If you want me to get a few officers down there I can certainly do it. I know you're over budget so don't worry about it, we'll get some officers down there. If the five of you decide that's what you want I'll do it. Mr. Inderbitzen said we can at least look at, as we get closer to the date, what we might do. I don't know if the Public Works Director, Jess, would want to have. His guys were in the parking lot directing cars I think. Chief Avery said on the road and in the parking lot. Our goal is during these events is if you're pulling into the side of the Community Center not to have people park on that side until the other parking lot is filled up. Because when they back out that's what causes the traffic to back up all the way down Lion's to Adelaide, down to Central to Lowell Road. If you guys want that setup just let us know and we can enact it. The morning of is not the time to prepare for this. Mr. Inderbitzen said that's why I wanted to bring it up. I said oh are we going to need some sort of traffic control for the Town election as well. We haven't in the past but I don't know how bad it was outside in the past. I didn't hear too many complaints after last year. Last year was one of the highest counts we've had in a long time. And it was a big snowstorm.

The Chairman recognized Selectman McGrath who said this is a little off topic but it may pertain to this. Planning Board, there was a Plan before us. A paper street off of Adelaide Street and in that presentation there are two, Selectman Coutu you may remember the conversation, there are two lots of land that belong to the Town of Hudson, They're adjacent to the Community Center and I'd like Elvis, I'll come in either tomorrow or sometime later this week, and we can take a look at the plans and see if we can create some additional parking on those lots because they lots are owned by the Town of Hudson. So that may provide some, I don't remember exactly what the plan was, there were fairly large lots, there's some wetlands on them, so that would have to be avoided, but it may provide some additional parking.

Mr. Inderbitzen stated the issues that affect turnout also, we had two big bond issues for the School last year, four union contracts and a petition article on full day kindergarten. We only have one bond issue for the School and one for the Town, a police station expansion. And a couple of union contracts but there didn't seem to be any controversy at least in the budget hearing process or in the deliberative session. So whether that brings out more people or less people, I don't know. It's always hard to judge. I thought we were going to have 9,000 people at the Primary. We had 7,200. I said boy did I underestimate.

Chairman Moring asked if there were any other comments. Selectman Coutu stated in last year's municipal election, Chief, did you assign anybody to work the municipal election? To which Chief Avery replied, no I did not. Selectman Coutu asked, Mr. Forrence, you didn't have any either, right? To which Mr. Forrence said no. Selectman Coutu went on to say, to the best of my recollection there were no complaints last year. We just adhered to there was no re-routing of traffic. They used regular access in, access out. I don't feel it is necessary, when you consider how bad the weather was and you had your crews out plowing, which narrows the roads down, and we still were able to get people in and out comfortably. This is by all indications, this year, so far, this is the second warmest winter on record. I don't think that we need to make a decision, I would support not having traffic control, you're only a phone call away if we need anything so I'm not going to worry about that, if there's no storm, Jess, and we need someone, I know you can make a person available. We'll be monitoring it.

We're all, for the most part going to be there, I'll be there part of the day. People will go over to any of the Selectmen if they have a problem and complain about it and it behooves us to go out and take a look at it, let Mr. Inderbitzen know and if Mr. Inderbitzen needs to call either of you I'm sure he will. I wouldn't commit to spending any money on overtime that day. Would you be happy with that Paul? To which Mr. Inderbitzen said, we were okay last time, we had a lengthy ballot again, and just people are inside a little longer. Which means the parking goes longer before someone changes over. But we didn't have a problem last year I didn't think and we had a pretty good turnout. As long as we have the option and people understand that if we do get some problems that we can address them. Selectman Coutu added, I believe it was last year Chief, you and I met right after opening and you told me that you had walked the, we had quite a long line, if you remember outside, because you went and introduced yourself, people shook hands with you, but you said it was well controlled and there was no complaints about traffic. Chief Avery responded saying, the other thing that we have, during the day, I can get our School Resource Officers in there quickly, our services division, get our detectives down there, if we needed to, to clear it out. If that's the case, get in touch with me, and we make it happen. I'm not worried about it. Selectman Coutu said, I suggest we go that route, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Inderbitzen asked the Board, does anyone have any questions for the statistics on the Primary? Selectman Coutu said, 19,052 on the total checklist, that's with the registrants from that day? So it would appear if we registered 400 people the number would be like 19200, but have these numbers been purged at some point? Mr. Inderbitzen said, not yet, not til after this year, the purges in the checklist occur after a census. So they will be sending out letters to everybody who hasn't voted. I don't know what the rules are, if it's the last two or three state elections, they send out letters, if they don't get it back they purge them. Selectman Coutu said, if we have a population of 25,000, which I think it's going to near close to, 28-30,000. That would indicate we have a 65-70% registering voters of the population which is what most towns or cities have. Mr. Inderbitzen said, well the number had already dropped 200 because of people moving out. As the Supervisors are going through and entering all of the data into the State database they already get a notice that this person has left, this person has left. Because they've registered in another town so we can subtract them from Hudson. So she said, I called her today, talking about personnel, and she said it's already gone down 200. So the new list, whenever it comes out before the Town election, will not be 19,052. It will be less than that. Selectman Coutu asked, is that something the State does on an ongoing basis, election after election? They purge the list based on duplicate registrants? Mr. Inderbitzen said the Supervisors get a list when somebody registers in another town, the town that they used to be in if it's in New Hampshire, gets noticed and they can take them off that list. That's the advantage of having a State-wide database. It's too bad we don't interact with all the other states to get the same kind of data.

Chairman Morin asked if there was anything else. Mr. Inderbitzen said, I have one other thing for you since it involves members of this Board. I just received this today, I'm going to read it to you. I'll send you copies. Also to the people inside, to my ballot workers and stuff. Mr. Inderbitzen went on to read an email sent to him from a Hudson resident pleased with how well she was treated by Town workers at the Primary. After reading the email aloud Mr. Inderbitzen said, I know who the folks were at the door, it was you guys. Selectman Roy said, I actually remember that lady and it was the Chairman who helped her out.

Mr. Inderbitzen went on to say, so we get ready for March 10<sup>th</sup>. The Chairman opted not to be in the room that day because he's on the ballot in a challenge, although he could be. He's opted not to. Which means all the rest of you has more work to do. We'll be doing the same thing. I'll have to empty the boxes a lot more frequently because they'll be three pages in the Town and just one for the School so it will be a little bit harder to keep track of things, but we're ready to do it and the Clerk is ready. I don't think we'll have as many absentee ballots and I'm not sure about the new voter registration. Looks like we're still a growing town.

Upon seeing nothing else, Chairman Morin and members of the Board thanked Mr. Inderbitzen for coming before the Board.

F. NH Commuter Rail Service

Chairman Morin asked Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima to come up to the microphone for this discussion. The Chairman informed the Board about two weeks ago we had a meeting with NRTC on the Commuter Rail with the Mayor of Nashua, and if you'd like to take it away....

Mr. Dhima said we got an invitation about a month ago related to commuter rail. You must have seen the article that came out recently about the possibility of a commuter rail. It was Mayor Donchess, Selectman Morin, Mr. Malizia, Mr. Van der Veer from the Planning Board, the Town Planner and myself and then chief staff from the Mayor's office. The Community Developer, someone from the Planning Department as well over there, Jay Minkarra and one of his staff. I thought overall the meeting went very well. It was basically just an overall view to where the needs are, the need for the Circumventual Highway came up. We were discussing towards the end of the meeting of possibly maybe teaming up with Nashua to pursue bigger grants. \$100 million dollar grants that could basically cover the commuter rail and the ability to increase the ridership. That's what it's coming down to. It appears they're working on the density to justify the commuter rail. Right now it appears to me that they're looking for some sort of support. It wasn't contribution, it was more like support from the governing body in Hudson that I think will help their case. Overall I thought it was a good meeting. There were a lot of questions from our side. The biggest concern is if the rail comes through and the station gets built there seems to be no plans that are going to address how we're going to get the people there. So there's no improvement whatsoever on the roads, on Hudson's side and Nashua's. That's a bit of a concern. That came up in the past, the Town Planner brought that up at NRTC to the DOT staff and it appears that while they're willing to spend the money on the rails they're not willing to spend money on the roads to get the people there. So it seems to be a bit all over the place. But overall that seemed to be the intent. They did not officially ask for anything at that meeting. That's what we got out of it at least. The Chairman interjected saying, talking about the traffic for Hudson, once that came up because they at one point wanted to send all the traffic south on Lowell Road in the morning, good call, but what we asked was the possibility of a commuter parking lot here in Hudson and then have a bus come over and pick them up and take them to the train station on Crown Street which would eliminate a lot of the traffic crossing the bridge at the morning rush hour.

Chairman Morin recognized Selectman Coutu who commented, I'm not going to support it and I'll tell you why. We don't have a plan. There is no specifics here whatsoever. Number one, where is it going to be? So many locations have been identified. I was told initially it was going to be where Old Navy was. That was coming down. The train station was going to be there. I think that would just be a traffic nightmare up and down DW Highway. How many trains gonna go by per day? Mr. Dhima replied, 16, I believe. Selectman Coutu said so how many more times is that going to stop traffic at the railroad crossings? For me, this is going to be problematic for Hudson. For Jim Donchess, it's a great thing. He's been advocating it for years. This is his target project. If he gets nothing else as mayor he wants to finally get the train station put in Nashua, regardless of the consequence to other municipalities. I cannot support it for the very first reason is, we don't have a plan. There's nothing really to look at. The traffic issues have not been addressed. They talk about it, and they talk around it, but they don't want to hear the specifics because they know it's going to be problematic for communities like Hudson. Litchfield's going to be affected, because the traffic coming south east to west in the morning, if there's commuter trains going from Lowell to Manchester every day, because I believe that's the route. They leave the station every half hour we have an additional maybe 12-20 stops for crossings over the railroad tracks in addition to the regular traffic they have for their cargo that transits through Nashua down to the Lowell side. I will not support it, I will not lend my voice to supporting until he has specifics. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman recognized Selectman Roy who said so, in reading just what you gave us and in talking with you I have a question about has the MBTA been involved in this at all? Obviously critical to getting this done. To which Mr. Dhima replied, that's a very good question, thank you for asking because I forgot to cover that. So originally MBTA was all over this and for some reason they're kind of not as interested now. Selectman Roy said, they have some real problems that they need to

address with the existing lines. Mr. Dhima replied, it appears that the problems consist of two things, issues as far as operations itself not being as profitable, they're basically subsidized but the other thing is they have a lot of segments that are missing within MBTA itself in Mass. So their issues of how are they going to spend money in New Hampshire when they're not even done. It's kind of like helping Litchfield when we have issues in Hudson with traffic. It just doesn't make any sense. We didn't want to get too much into it, it was kind of like try to be a good neighbor and just listen, but that came out. But at the end of the day, what it comes down to is if they can justify that the demand is there and that the model pays for itself, or the whole operation, somehow, then they might be interested because it's about making money at the end of the day. Is it going to be profitable? Do I see it happening or being like that, I don't know. Selectman Roy said I think it they do it's going to be a longtime off because they have some internal issues they need to deal with things that already exist. Mr. Dhima said, also the existing rail system needs to be completely updated.

Selectman Coutu said, they just bought a bunch of brand new cars that they can't put them on the tracks because broke down right away, brand new. Mr. Dhima said, you can just look at the crossings on the road and you'll leave a tire in there, but yes. Chairman Morin said, and remember, the way the Board is going now, and we say we're not in support of it that's going to be a big hit on him and we'll see if he's going to try to help us. But I think that was the meeting we need to get you on Board with this. Chairman Morin recognized Selectman McGrath who said, I'm not in favor of it either, although, depending on the citizens of Hudson and if they really wanted rail service to Massachusetts that might cause us to rethink this. But Nashua hasn't shown or demonstrated over the last number of years, their concern about their impacts of their developments of their city that is impacting the residents of the Town of Hudson. When the golf course was being developed, when that was being proposed, we declared that a regional impact development because of the impacts it would have on the City of Nashua and surrounding communities. When that development decided to go over to Nashua, Nashua failed to declare it a regional impact because of the impacts that it would have on us. They didn't care about that. They only cared about themselves. They did the same thing with the development across the bridge. They didn't declare that a regional impact development and that development has had significant impact on the Town of Hudson and the traffic that we have to endure. So, am I willing to help Mayor Donchess, I don't think so.

Selectman Martin informed the Board, I listen to talk radio on my way to work. They're trying to find ways to subsidize fares for, and I'm not being mean when I say this, for low income people. But they can't even take care of their equipment, MBTA. You heard it, I heard it and I could support it if there was a plan and it was well thought out but initiating the plan is going to be very hard between these two municipalities because of the roadway system that we have and traffic.

The Chairman said, this is just an overview of the meeting. We were getting a little information. That's all this was. Selectman Coutu said, if I were the mayor of Nashua or the municipal leader in Hudson, and I wanted something that impactful, I'd be here myself. The Chairman said, he offered if we wanted him to. Selectman Coutu said make sure he has a plan in his hands and some funds.

#### G. Update on the Services for Captain Phanuef

The Chairman asked Chief Avery to come forward to talk about the plans for the funeral services for Captain Phanuef coming up this weekend. Chief Avery said, thank you Mr. Chairman, so this weekend as most people are aware or have been made aware through my Captain, Tad Dionne's Facebook posts and press releases or both that he's sent out through WMUR and other news outlets, this weekend Captain Ryan Phanuef will be honored at the wake and funeral which will take place on Friday and Saturday. Why did the Chairman ask me to speak about this, is it's going to have a large impact on the traffic in and around Saint Kathryn's Church. There will be large police and fire presence also in or around the church. Stewart Street, most people know where that is. It's a cut-through from River Road up to Dracut Road is going to be shut down for traffic. That is going to be done for safety reasons. Again there will be a large contingency of law enforcement there. Not all from Hudson. There will be members from the Nashua Police Department, members of the New Hampshire State Police and members of the Southern New Hampshire Special Operations Unit that will be there.

There will be some escorts taking place. Captain Phaneuf will be landing tomorrow morning at the Nashua Airport. He will be escorted by the Hudson Police, Nashua Police and the Hudson Fire Department from Nashua over to Dumont and Sullivan Funeral Home. We are expecting a large media presence at this. We have declared several areas that they are going to be stationed and there will be a public information officer with them at all times. The media will not be made available to the family, at all, whatsoever, under no circumstances will the media get to the family. That is per the request of the family and we will definitely honor that. Thankfully the Hudson Police has a great working relationship with the media. I'm in constant communication with the media outlets and hopefully they listen to what we've said, because that will not take place. So the wake will begin at one o'clock on Friday. They'll start seeing police activity in or around Saint Kathryn's Church around 11:00 a.m. maybe a little bit earlier than that. Then it will really ramp up around noontime. Where you'll see specialized vehicles moved into this town. The reason behind it, I don't want to get into all the details, there are no specific threats or anything like that that we are aware of. We've done several threat assessments. The Fire Chief, myself, a captain from Nashua, Chief Buxton's command staff have been meeting and meeting and meeting to make sure, and Chairman Morin has been brought in on those meetings to make sure that this was done without any glitches. I have the utmost confidence. A lot of these meetings took place while I was on vacation. I have been briefed every morning since. I have the utmost confidence in all the people involved in the planning to make sure that this is a special event for Captain Phaneuf who as most know now, was tragically killed in Afghanistan in an airplane crash serving in the United States Air Force. We will do everything in our power to make sure this is done correctly to honor him.

Chairman Morin recognized Selectman McGrath who asked Chief Avery, can you tell us what the route will be tomorrow, escorting Captain Phaneuf to Hudson. Because if people want to stand out and honor him as he travels through Hudson, I think that that would be nice. Chief Avery replied, tomorrow the route, he is due to land in or about 9:30 tomorrow morning at the Nashua airport. He will be coming over from Nashua, down Amherst Street, by Canal Street by BAE Systems. He'll come over the Veteran's Bridge he'll come up to Chase Street, they'll take a left onto School Street in front of Town Hall and in front of Central Fire Station. They'll continue across Library Street, up School Street take a left onto First Street and then a left to Dumont and Sullivan Funeral Home where the Fire Chief and myself will be awaiting his arrival. Again there will be a large escort of Captain Phaneuf coming. It would be a tremendous honor I'm sure for the Phaneuf family if people have an opportunity to witness what they're about to see tomorrow. On Friday he will be escorted from the Dumont Sullivan Funeral Home down to Saint Kathryn Church, again, with Fire Department and the Police Department making sure this goes off without any hitches.

Selectman McGrath stated, it's unfortunate that it's school vacation week because I was thinking as I was driving up here tonight that that would be great opportunity for the school children standing out honoring somebody that's given their life for this country. It would be a good learning lesson for them and I think that the family would appreciate a showing like that. It's unfortunate.

Chief Avery went on to say the Phaneuf family are some of the most outstanding people that I've had a pleasure of meeting with in this community. They've been first class on what they have asked of us and again, we've done anything we can to help out that family. But I can't say enough. I did not know Mr. or Mrs. Phaneuf prior to this. I've since got to know them and he has worked hand in hand with Captain Dionne. Just an amazing family, suffering from a tragic loss. Again, I'm hell-bent on making sure he is honored Friday and Saturday. Selectman McGrath asked to comment and said, I'm going to get to Captain Phaneuf. But relative to the voting session that took place a couple of weeks ago, Captain Dionne, there was a lady that fell and I went out, Kara and I went out and got some help in. Captain Dionne sat with her, stayed with her, he was so kind. I can't stress it enough, how kind he was to that lady and he stayed with her. The kindness that he showed to that lady has been show to the Phaneuf family. I have no doubt about it because I witnessed it myself. So that's something that we all need to be aware of and be proud of and be appreciative of because we have someone who in times of trouble can demonstrate that kind of kindness. Chief Avery added, Captain Dionne, all my captains, and my entire staff, I never ever get complaints about rudeness or anything like that. They're overly polite to people. They know that's what I demand. Selectman McGrath replied by saying, I don't doubt that it's just that I witnessed it first hand and some I'm able to relate that. It was just really remarkable. Chief Avery said, he's an amazing, he truly is.

Chairman Morin asked if anyone else had anything to add. He then asked Chief Avery to stay in the room because he may be needed under Selectmen's Comments for a few things.

9. REMARKS BY THE SCHOOL BOARD

Chairman Morin recognized Diana Lamothe, School Board representative. Ms. Lamothe said, first I just want to say, I'm really happy to see the Town and School working together and we're going to get the School ballots out to everyone in Town. It's the first I'm seeing this summary on the top. It invites people to take a look at the main points. So I'm very happy to see this going out.

I also wanted to announce, there's an event open to all its called Hard Hat Tours at Alvirne High School. Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup>. You can drop in anytime between 8:30 and 10:30 in the morning. It gives you a chance to look at, you'll see what the entrance and the cafeteria is like at Alvirne and you'll also be to if you so choose, to see a tour of the CTE construction. It's really amazing how much progress they've made with that addition and renovation.

10. REMARKS BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town Administrator was not present at this meeting.

11. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY SELECTMEN

Selectman Martin -Thank you Mr. Chairman. I don't have much to say. I just have one thing to talk about and I think I need to bring it to the attention and get some answers. I have a question that needs to be answered. Sorry. It's not about the amount of money on this PO, but it's about the purpose of the PO. We have an EZ Pass transponder that we're paying for and I wanted to know if it's going into a Town vehicle. If so, why and why isn't the Town vehicle exempt from State tolls? That's it. That's all I have. The Chairman replied saying, okay, I'll look into it tomorrow for you.

Selectman Coutu - I'm not going to have anything to say other than I just want to expound upon what the Police Chief shared relative to traffic during Friday and Saturday for Ryan Phaneuf, deceased Captain of United States Air Force. People should be made aware that if you are going south towards Massachusetts Dracut Road will be closed in a southerly direction all the way up to Pine Road. Correct? If you want to go to the church you would have to go down Lowell Road and take what's across the street from my store, I call it wishy washy road, Pine Road, which is across from the BAE Entrance. Take Pine Road as if you're going to the old Sears warehouse go past the fish and game, go that way, go up to Dracut Road and then you can head north towards the church and as the Chief said, there will be police presence there and the one street that will be closed is Stewart, directly across from Saint Kathryn's there will be no cutting back and forth one way or another. And we join with the Chief in asking you citizens to pay your respects to the Phaneuf family in memory of Ryan. If you have an opportunity and you can come and stand on a sidewalk as his body is carried into our town the Phaneuf family would truly enjoy. It would be pleasurable for them as they come through town as they see the acknowledgement of our spirit and our caring for the memory of Ryan and I think the family will take it very personally. I understand full well why they want to have their private moments. They'll be enough for public to see with the funeral and all. So thank you Chief. I want to thank you and the Fire Chief and all of our personnel who are working to make sure that Ryan is honored in the fashion that always keeps Hudson a little bit above everybody else in caring about our fellow citizens and all that you've done with the Phaneuf family. Tad has done an awesome job, so thank you very much Chief. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman McGrath – Just two things. The first thing is I want to urge anyone who is watching this meeting to please review and pay particular attention to the Board of Selectmen and

School Board candidates at Candidates Night. I think that it's something that all of the voters ought to view and get to understand who the candidates are, what they stand for and what they stated. Some of it is pretty scary. So that's number one. And number two. A request to all of the residents that are watching this meeting to keep Captain Ryan Phaneuf and his family in your thoughts and prayers as they go through the difficult time of laying their son to rest. That's all that I have.

Selectman Roy - I just have a couple things. I'll just say it every time I get a chance between now and March 10<sup>th</sup>, please don't forget to vote at the Community Center on March 10<sup>th</sup>. And I will echo everyone else's sentiments to keep Captain Phaneuf in your thoughts and at every opportunity, honor him for his great service. That's all I have.

Chairman Morin - I've got a number of things. First thing is we ran into a problem, Selectman McGrath and myself during the week, we both ended up having a question and we did not know who was in charge. I think we need to sit down and figure out when the Town Administrator is not here who we're going to ask questions to and who's going to be responsible because along with the problems we had this week, we do have a safety plan for this building if some type of emergency happens and the Town Administrator has certain duties and if he's not there it's going to leave a big hole in that. Other people have duties that may be moved and we need to know who's going to fill these and we need to come up with some sort of chain of command when he's not available. Any suggestions or do you want to take it up at another meeting? Selectman Coutu said I think it would be a workshop item. Historically Mr. Chairman I asked the other day when I came in, and I said, who is the acting Town Administrator? It's the first time that I can recall we don't have an acting Town Administrator. It has always been the policy and that person who is appointed would typically know the policy and procedure for an emergency whether it's an evacuation, checking the building to make sure everybody got out safely, who they deal with, communicate with in terms of fire and police. The Town Administrator is aware of those and I always thought that we would have a backup. I was somewhat concerned that there was no acting Town Administrator. In the past the last few times it had been the Finance Director. I know that Mr. Michaud, the Chief Assessor, had served on a couple of occasions. It might be a workshop item and we might be able to resolve this in fifteen minutes at best.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and she stated, I contacted the Fire Chief because he's right next door, he's familiar with what goes on within Town Hall and it was an appropriate call to make because of the question that I had. And I'm not sure that we got an answer about that yet. To which the Chairman said, I don't know either. He asked the Ms. Laffin, did we get a call on the flag today? To which Ms. Laffin replied, He emailed asking me if we had heard back from the State. We had not so he was following up from there. The Chairman said, he was going to take care of it tomorrow.

Any other comments on this? Selectman Roy said, other than I would echo, that I think it's appropriate for a workshop so we can maybe spend some time on it, even if it's fifteen minutes. Selectman Martin said, my only comment is, I don't know the question that you had and is it something that maybe we should all be aware of? Chairman Morin said, no, it was just related to the events that were taking place this week, but we didn't have anybody. But again, knowing the emergency plan because I've sat in the last couple of Safety Committee meetings, he has specific duties and there's no one else to. We need to have a backup for the backup.

Chairman Morin recognized Selectman Coutu who said, this is taking me aback here, this last, not what you just had but the comment prior to that which relates to the flag. I had asked at the beginning of the week whether or not we were, I think I sent you an email, all Municipal flags should be at half-staff for the weekend, and then I find out that we need the Governors permission? With or without the Governors permission what is he going to come down here and arrest us? Our Municipal flags should be at half-staff. Chairman Morin said, this has been going on for over a week. The Chief will follow up with it tomorrow and if we can't we will make a decision and we'll deal with it as it comes. I'm with you. Selectman Coutu asked, do you want a consensus now so you don't have to call everybody? The Chairman said, we don't need a consensus, I believe everybody. We'll get it done, and the Chief will follow up tomorrow.

Chairman Morin asked Ms. Laffin, could you set up a workshop date? To which Ms. Laffin said, we have one scheduled for Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Chairman Morin asked Chief Avery to come forward again. Chairman Morin went on to say we had talked briefly on the escort for Captain Phaneuf from Hudson down to Arlington and that will take place on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Does the Board want to cover, it was going to be two police officers and two fire fighters. Does this Board want to cover that detail? There will be fuel for the vehicles, Town vehicles, one night at a hotel which I believe was \$159 a night. Selectman McGrath says, without question. Selectman Roy said, I don't object to that at all.

The second one is on March 9<sup>th</sup> is the actual funeral service at Arlington National Cemetery. He was a Hudson resident. Again, we talked about this very briefly but didn't get into it very deeply, an estimated cost for that, for the same amount of people, it would be five people, and one member of the Board would be about \$3000. Half of that was airline tickets. Do we want to fly them down or do we have them drive down? What's the consensus of the Board? Selectman McGrath said, fly and I'll just make an additional comment, a couple of years ago we sent how many officers to Texas? Because of all the mass shootings that were happening and affecting the various police departments. KC gave me a cost at that time and the impact to the tax payers was less than one penny. I would anticipate that this would be similar, so it's a minimal cost to the tax payer. Less than a penny. Chairman Morin said, what I got today, everything included, was about \$3,000 and again half of that was for airline tickets so if they were going to drive down or fly them down. Selectman McGrath said, fly them down. The Chairman asked Chief Avery, is that correct Chief? To which the Chief replied, that's correct in my conversation with Chief Buxton earlier this morning. Selectman Martin asked, you said we're going to designate a Board member. Are we going to do that now? The Chairman said, at this point I won't be going. Selectman Martin said, neither will I. Selectman Roy said, I know that's now how I'm spending my birthday. Selectman McGrath said, no I won't be attending. It was decided that Selectman Coutu would attend.

Chairman Morin said Brian sent me an email today that's why I'm on the phone getting the information. He's going to do a Master Plan update and what this involves, he's going to send out weekly messages on our website to Town residents as a poll and ask different questions each week. What are some of the buildings you value in Town? What are some of the buildings you look at as historical? What do we need for recreation, things of that nature? He just wanted me to bring that up to the Board tonight. See if you had any comments or anything that you'd like to add. He's got a list already. Selectman McGrath was recognized and said, I think that's an excellent idea and the information that will come back, he'll be able to extrapolate and have a report to the residents. It will be in his writing so it will be accurate. There won't be any misrepresentations. Selectman Martin was recognized and he stated, you said that's going to be done with our website? Great! That's awesome!

Selectman Coutu said, I'm going to say something, if you don't mind Mr. Chairman, just as an add on to what Selectman McGrath just said. We have two to three Town webpages, correction. There are two or three pages that are managed by citizens in the Town of Hudson that are dedicated to activities and gossip about the Town of Hudson. I'm doing a couple of TV programs tomorrow after Captain Ryan Phaneuf is brought to the funeral home, I'll be at HCTV and I'll be doing programs with the Police Department on two valid questions and I'm going to also do a separate program relative to these pages. They're not webpages, they're Facebook pages. People read this and they take it as Bible. I resent and I can't say it emphatically enough, I resent people who extrapolate information that's provided, public documents from the Town and they alter the information that they see and insert their personal thoughts into it and make it look like it's an official document from the Town of Hudson. When in fact it is not true. We have a candidate for public office this year who has done that and I am going to call that candidate out for doing it not once but over and over and over again. We have people that serve, when I say people I mean one or two, maybe three people, who serve on some of our Boards and Commissions who are not a benefit to the Town of Hudson. They're of no benefit to this Town. They're harmful in the way they operation and the way they cut and paste to make it look like its information that's official and comes directly from us. We approved a plan that our Town Planner worked on very diligently and wanted it to have the integrity that it deserves. He worked with Mr. Minkkara from the Nashua Regional Planning Commission and information that was provided from the citizen's study,

information that we gathered from citizens was hijacked by them. They took over the posting pages and kept inserting their own information and flooded it and now they're claiming that an overwhelming majority of the citizens support their ideas. They've been brainwashing people for a long time with misinformation and it's got to stop and if they people who manage the pages are not going to take the responsibility to remove the pages I will make every attempt to contact Facebook because they are now, they have made a pledge, as did Twitter that they're going to start shutting down pages where we can prove or anybody can prove that they're providing misinformation. They want to get out of the business of publishing lies. And so, I'm just forewarning the people that are doing it that we're coming after you. I certainly am. I'm not going to let it go unanswered. I'm very proud of this town. We do the very best every week. We may not agree on everything but the end product, you see it. Our roads are plowed, our police and fire are doing all they can to keep our town safe on a daily basis, above and beyond if you ever listen to the police and fire calls. Highway Department is busy also working with police and fires, accidents, wherever they're needed they're always there. Municipal government is operating efficiently. You compare our budget and services with other municipalities, I have a son who has a house in Pelham and he's paying \$17,000 a year in taxes. He'd be paying probably 11,000 or 12,000 here in Hudson and they don't even collect his garbage. We give a good bang for the buck. We've got one of the lowest tax rates and to see people constantly putting our town down it's very painful. Knowing the work and effort that we all put in individually, people have no understanding what encompasses being a member of the Board of Selectmen and serving on a lot of Boards and Commissions and have one or two people undermine the work of everybody. It's shameful, pitiful and they need to be called out and I'm going to start doing it tomorrow. And I'm going to be doing it on a weekly and regular basis. I'll be watching for their postings and I'll call them out and I'll call the author out. They want to sue me, sue me. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Morin went on to say, HCTV asked again if the departments have anything they can get on there, they're willing to send their people out during the day time. Something maybe you setting up for voting or something to that effect. That's a real good thing for our people to see what everybody does in Town and it's good for each department so people understand what you really do. So when it comes time for contracts and things you need, that's the time to get the information out. So if you got something they can come in, give them a call please.

Chairman Morin also informed the Board Mr. Malizia and myself went to Concord the other day and we had a meeting with the Governor and the DOT Commissioner. The first thing we talked about was the Lowell Road blue light. She wasn't told about that until two days before our meeting. Her people never told her. She actually asked us about it, what it was all about, how we got to do it and how the Chief went through the process with the courts to get approval and everything and she's very interested to know how it works out. The second thing is we discussed Kimball Hill Road. There has been a change in that, whether it's going to do us any good we'll have to see, is that road is to be the first road in this district that is hit by a plow or a salt truck. Now what you've got to look at is if they did it at the end before and doing it at the beginning, we're still going to run into the same problem where it takes the four hours to do the district. But we had a very good conversation on that. She understood that we're not playing around. The complaints will keep on coming and we'll keep calling the supervisor down there. She lives in Nashua so that's good to know. I'll call her and have her come over. We got that squared away. We'll see how that goes and take it from there.

The last thing is again, our deepest sympathies out to the Phaneuf family. I can tell you, the Town has come through. If you've driven through Town there are green lights everywhere in honor of the Captain. The businesses have started to put the signs up all around. Typical Hudson. When we need to come together we do. I appreciate that very much and this is something that we need to honor one of our own because he gave his life in service of us all. I'd just like to thank all the departments and other police departments who came in to help us. Chief, please send out thanks.

12. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Martin seconded by Selectman Roy, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee; RSA 91-A:3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. Carried 5-0.

Chairman Morin entered Nonpublic Session at 8:46 p.m., thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board’s next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room.

Chairman Morin entered open session at 10:19 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:21 p.m. by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Roy, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant.

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David S. Morin, Chairman

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Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman

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Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

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Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

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Normand G. Martin, Selectman